

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

## THE STATUS OF THE GENUS ORCHILUS CABANIS.

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The generic name *Orchilus* Cabanis was first proposed in 1845 for a genus of South American Tyrannidae.\* It originally included the following four species: (1) *Euscarthmus cinereicollis* Maximilian=*Orchilus auricularis* (Vieillot); (2) *Euscarthmus superciliaris* Maximilian=*Habrura pectoralis* (Vieillot); (3) *Orchilus pileatus* Cabanis=*Lophotriccus squamaecristus* (Lafresnaye); (4) *Orchilus rufipes* Cabanis. No type is mentioned in the original description, but by common consent it seems to have been, up to the present time, universally regarded as *Platyrrhynchus auricularis* Vieillot. The earliest designation of a type for *Orchilus* Cabanis seems to be that of Gray in 1855,† who selected *Orchilus pileatus* Cabanis, which, as above indicated, is the same as *Todirostrum squamaecristum* Lafresnaye. This consequently makes the generic name *Orchilus* Cabanis identical in application with *Lophotriccus* Berlepsch.‡ Fortunately for the name *Lophotriccus*, however, *Orchilus* Cabanis is preoccupied by *Orchilus* Morris,§ and is, therefore, automatically disposed of in the synonymy of *Lophotriccus*.

This leaves the present genus *Orchilus* without a name, since

\* Fauna Peruana, Aves, 1845, pp. 24, 164.

† Cat. Gen. and Subgen. Birds, 1855, p. 50.

‡ Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1883, p. 553 (Type, *Todirostrum spicifer* Lafresnaye).

§ *Orchilus* Morris, The Naturalist (ed. Neville Wood), III, No. 9, June, 1837, p. 124. This genus, of which no type was originally mentioned, contained two species—*Orchilus cristatus*=*Regulus cristatus* Koch=*Motacilla regulus* Linnaeus; and *Orchilus ignicapillus*=*Sylvia ignicapilla* Temminck. Neither of these species has yet been selected as the type of *Orchilus* Morris, and since this name must now apparently be used in place of *Regulus* Cuvier, for *Motacilla regulus* Linnaeus and its allies (cf. Richmond, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., LIII, 1917, p. 620), we hereby designate *Sylvia ignicapilla* Temminck (Brehm MS.) as the type of *Orchilus* Morris.

*Perissotriccus* Oberholser,\* proposed for *Orchilus ecaudatus* (Lafresnaye) and *Orchilus atricapillus* (Lawrence), is generically distinct from *Orchilus auricularis* (Vieillot) and *Orchilus albiventris* Berlepsch and Stolzmann. Mr. C. E. Hellmayr has recently stated† that *Orchilus albiventris*‡ is intermediate between *Orchilus auricularis* and *Orchilus ecaudatus*, the type of *Perissotriccus*, and therefore that the genus *Perissotriccus* is invalid. A careful examination of the species in question shows, however, that *Orchilus albiventris* has structural proportions identical with *Orchilus auricularis*, being, moreover, very much like it in color, and, therefore, is strictly congeneric, not by any means intermediate between it and *Perissotriccus ecaudatus*. This may be readily verified by reference to the original diagnosis of *Perissotriccus* Oberholser§ and the measurements of the species in question. Since the two species, *Orchilus auricularis* and *Orchilus albiventris*, which form the present genus *Orchilus* after the removal of the species of *Perissotriccus*, are thus without a generic designation, we here propose for them the name **Notorchilus**,\*\* and designate as its type *Platyrrhynchus auricularis* Vieillot.

By this arrangement the species heretofore included in the genus *Orchilus* Cabanis will stand as follows:

*Notorchilus auricularis auricularis* (Vieillot).

*Notorchilus auricularis pyrrhotis* (Berlepsch).

*Notorchilus albiventris* (Berlepsch & Stolzmann).

*Perissotriccus ecaudatus* (D'Orbigny & Lafresnaye).

*Perissotriccus atricapillus* (Lawrence).

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\* Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XXV, Aug. 30, 1902, p. 64.

† Novit. Zool., XIII, No. 1, February, 1906, p. 22.

‡ *Orchilus albiventris* Berlepsch and Stolzmann, Ibis, series 6, VI, No. XXIII, July, 1894, p. 339 (La Merced, east central Peru).

§ Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XXV, August 30, 1902, p. 64.

\*\* *νότος*, meridies; *ὄρχιλος*, regulus.